

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A disc caddy presentation apparatus comprising:
a pivot block;
a slide having a linearly stationary proximal end fixed in rotation with the pivot block and a linearly extensible distal end;
a gripping block attached to the distal end of the slide and thereby pivotable by the pivot block and linearly moveable coextensively with ~~by~~ the slide distal end; and
a gripping member supported by the gripping block and capable of a gripping mode fixing the disc caddy to the gripping block.
2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 comprising a disc caddy locating assembly supported by the gripping block.
3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the locating assembly comprises a bar that is moveable to abuttingly engage against the disc caddy.
4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the locating assembly comprises opposing bars that are moveable to abuttingly engage opposing sides of the disc caddy.
5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 4 further comprising a linkage connecting the bars to a common actuator so that the bars move in unison.
6. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the disc caddy has a bottom surface defining an opening, and wherein the bars are moveable to a retracted position whereat they are receivingly engageable inside the disc caddy bottom end opening,

and wherein the bars are subsequently moveable to an extended position whereat they abuttingly engage against the disc caddy bottom surface inside the opening.

7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the gripping member has opposing jaws with one of the opposing jaws disposed for being receivingly engageable inside the disc caddy opening.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein one of the jaws is fixed.

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the other jaw is moved by an extensible slide.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the linkage is moved by an extensible cylinder.

11. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the pivot block is moved by an extensible cylinder.

12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a travel sensor mounted to the gripping block.

13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising an infeed conveyer disposing the disc caddy opening in a non-vertical plane adjacent the gripping block.

14. – 18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
tilting a disc caddy confining a disc to a first angular orientation to counter gravity
otherwise acting to displace the disc from the caddy;

~~tilting~~ pivoting a gripping block to achieve a parallel relationship with the disc caddy;

after the pivoting step and before the gripping step, moving the gripping block linearly while preserving the parallel relationship to abuttingly engage the disc caddy;

gripping the disc caddy with the gripping block; and

reverse pivoting the gripping block to tilt the disc caddy to a second angular orientation different than the first angular orientation to present the disc caddy to a picking operation to remove the disc from the disc caddy.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 further comprising locating the disc caddy in relation to a datum after the moving step.

21. (Previously presented) An apparatus presenting a disc confined by a disc caddy comprising a caddy vacuum attachment securing the disc caddy, and means for presenting the disc caddy at a predetermined substantially fixed location.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the gripping step is characterized by closing opposing jaws against the disc caddy.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the gripping step is characterized by at least one active jaw.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the locating step is characterized by moving a datum surface against the disc caddy.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the locating step is characterized by moving opposing datum surfaces against the disc caddy.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the tilting step is characterized by moving the disc caddy from a first position to a second position adjacent the gripping block while at the first angular orientation prior to the moving step.

28. (Previously presented) An apparatus for handling an open sided container containing a work piece while removing the work piece from the open side in a substantially horizontal direction, comprising:

- a transport device that moves the container to a picking operation with the open side tilted to counter gravitational force otherwise urging the work piece out of the container; and
- means for presenting the container to the picking operation for removing the work piece in the substantially horizontal direction.